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# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Sulphuric Acid Production  
during 1950 - 1951

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1. Production of sulphuric acid in the DDR:

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Production Planned for 1950</u>	<u>Production up to September 1950</u>
VVB Schwarza, Thuringia (Organa)	32,400 tons	23,750 tons
Magdeburg Suedost, Fahlberg-List (Alsid)	21,500 tons	11,750 tons
Coswig, Saxony-Anhalt (Alsid)	42,000 tons	32,352 tons
Weissig, Saxony. Former von Heyden. (Alsid)	33,000 tons	25,239 tons
SAG Farbenfabrik, Wolfen, Saxony-Anhalt	27,000 tons	20,143 tons
Doberitz, Westhavelland (FASA)	17,600 tons	12,844 tons
Salzwedel, Saxony-Anhalt (Alsid)	7,700 tons	3,663 tons
Heinrichshall bei Bad Koesteritz, Thuringia (Alsid)	13,200 tons	6,276 tons
Kali-Chemie, Berlin-Schoeneweide (VEB Chemie. Berlin)	12,000 tons	8,853.5 tons

Note: All figures are in tons of  $\text{SO}_3$  and must be divided by .8153 to get corresponding figures in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (100%).

2. Up until September 30, 1950, the plants at Fahlberg List, Salzwedel, and Heinrichshall had been suffering from a severe shortage of raw materials so that production has had to be cut on the average up to 30%.
3. The above list includes all sulphuric acid plants except the following: Winterfaehrbruecke in Saxony, Staatliche Saechsische Muldenhuette and Halsbruecke in Saxony, Oranienburg/Berlin, and Mansfeld/Hettstedt.
4. The production requirements will be raised for all plants in 1951. Coswig for example will have to produce up to 48,000 tons of  $SO_3$  per year by constructing new furnaces. This means that the DDR will use up to 300,000 tons

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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of pyrites during 1951 for the production of  $\text{SO}_3$ . The planning section of the Supply Ministry is providing for 400,000 tons of pyrites as follows:

Production from Elbingerode in the Harz	96,000 tons
Production from Himmelfahrt near Halsbruecke	14,000 tons
Imports from Bulgaria	30,000 tons
Imports from Greece and Cyprus	10,000 tons
Imports from Finland	30,000 tons
Proposed imports from Poland (Kielce) and Sweden (Boliden)	20,000 tons
From Western export-import firms	200,000 tons

5. In addition the DDR has several plans for increasing production of  $\text{SO}_3$  in the future. First they are rebuilding the Gypsum- $\text{SO}_3$  plant at Wolfen which will initially have a production of  $\text{SO}_3$  amounting to 60,000 tons, which will be increased to reach a final capacity of 120,000 tons. This plant is being built on the same foundations as the old plant and will have the same capacity when finished. Next they are planning to build a plant in Thuringia to produce  $\text{SO}_3$  from  $\text{MgSO}_4$  compounds. This plant would at the same time produce either pure magnesium or magnesium oxide. The production methods used will be the same as are in use at Hattdorf in the US Zone which were developed by Lurgi and IG Farben during the war. In spite of many difficulties, the work seems to be progressing favorably on this last named project.

  Comment. The DDR may be ordering more than they need in order to prevent the extreme shortages which have occurred in pyrites in the year 1950. On the other hand this may be indicative of stockpiling of strategic materials.

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